Bio-Diversity Commission

2192. SHRIMATI VASUNDHRA RAJE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to set up an independent Bio-diversity Commission.

(b) if so, the purpose behind setting up such Commission; and

(c) the steps taken in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPTAIN JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

Drug Units

2193. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of multinational drug manufacturing units in India with a turnover of more than one hundred crores as on March 12, 1996;

(b) the number of Indian drug manufacturing units having a turnover of more than fifty crores as on the said date; and

(c) the number of applications for new proposals from the Indian and Foreign companies on the desk for clearance before the Drug authority as on March 31, 1996?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) and (b) As per available information the number of multinational drug manufacturing units in India having turnover of more than 100 crores is eighteen, while the number of Indian drug manufacturing units with a turnover of more than 50 crores is forty-eight

(c) No such proposal is pending in the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals.

[Translation]

Railway Claim Tribunals

2194. SHRI RAMASHRAYA PRASAD SINGH
SHRIMATI SHEELA GUATAM

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of railway claims tribunals has been reduced, resulting in difficulties for the people.

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the region-wise details of the tribunals functioning before the curtailment; and

(d) the place where these tribunals have been closed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No. Sir.

(b) to (c). Do not arise.

[English]

Jobs by Tibetan Refugees

2195. SHRI R.B. RAI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Tibetan refugees have captured major part of the good jobs in Darjeeling manipulating the official records and presenting themselves as the local tribals;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have received any complaints of manipulating the official records by them;

(d) if so, the action taken against the erring persons;

(e) whether the resentment among the local inhabitants have been noticed by the Government; and

(f) if so, the steps the Government propose to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Yes Sir, there is some ethnic tension recently.

(f) Situation is under watch.

[Translation]

Fare Structure of Suburban Trains

2196. SHRI RAMESHWAR PATIDAR
SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the many anomalies existing in the fare structure of the suburban trains;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action being taken by the Government to remove the existing anomalies in the fare structure of the suburban trains in the Country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (c). There is no separate fare structure for Suburban trains. The fare structure of IInd Class (Ordinary) is uniformly applicable to both suburban and Non-Suburban Sections. At certain distances in the fare table the increase in fars is not gradual mainly due to abolition of fares in fractions of a rupee and exemptions granted

from fare increase for specific distances in certain years. With the fares for IInd class (ordinary) remaining unchanged for the last 3 years, the existing position will continue until the fares are suitably revised.

[English]

Funds for Agriculture Sector

2197. DR. T SUBBARAMI REDDY :
SHRI MURALIDHAR JENA :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount allocated to each State for the development of Agriculture during the last year and current financial year;

(b) the funds actually utilized by each State during the said period;

(c) whether some State Governments have sought more funds for the purpose during the current year;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (e). Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Looting of Bus

2198. SHRI VIJAY GOEL :
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Nainital bound Delhi bus was looted near Mussoorie;

(b) if so, the details of amount looted from the passengers;

(c) the number of persons arrested in this regard;

(d) the number of buses looted in Uttar Pradesh during 1995 and upto July 1996, and

(e) the action taken by the Government to prevent recurrence of such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (e). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

IFFCO

2199. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether IFFCO has purchased sub standard MOP from IPL of the Russian origin at $ 126 C&F with letter of credit;

(b) whether IFFCO had ignored Jordan MOP of better grade which was available at the same price without letter of credit;

(c) whether IFFCO had a stock of 90 thousand tons at Kandla plant;

(d) if so, the reasons for purchasing sub-standard material of Russian make;

(e) whether IFFCO had claimed penalty in the pat as per F.C.O. on Russian material on particle size of MOP; and

(f) if so, he reasons for not claiming penalty on particle size this time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) In September'95, IFFCO signed a contract with IPL for the purchase of MOP with an option to source it from any of the producers, namely, Jordan, Israel, Russia and Germany at the Rupee equivalent of US $ 126 per metric tonne on C&F basis without any letter of credit and with 180 days credit. The quality of Russian MOP supplied by IPL against this contract was of the requisite standard prescribed for its use in the manufacture of complex fertilizers.

(b) IFFCO had not received any specific offer for supply of MOP from Jordan.

(c) and (d). No, Sir. At the time of contracting, IFFCO had a stock of only 25,000 MTs of MOP which was not adequate.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) In April' 95, the Government of India clarified that the MOP used for production of complex fertilizers does not fall within the scope of Fertilizers (Control) Order, 1985. As a consequence the material supplied by IPL under this contract and used by IFFCO for the manufacture of complex fertilizers did not attract penalty on account of particle size deviations.

Vohra Committee Report

2200. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Vohra Committee Report has been submitted to the Government;